

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6945**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1279

**NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 8, 2012

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Various natural resources matters.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Eberhart

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**     **GENERAL**  
                              **DEDICATED**  
                              **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** Pending

**Summary of Legislation:** Moves the state land office from the Indiana department of administration to the department of natural resources (DNR). Increases the amount that an office of DNR or the department of state revenue must deposit on the business day following receipt from \$100 to \$500. Increases the time period within which each parcel of land classified as native forest land, a forest plantation, or wildlands must be inspected from five years to seven years. Allows the director of DNR to give certain individuals permission to spotlight wild animals or use a silencer. Requires that hunting license stamps be electronically generated. Removes the requirement that commemorative stamps be furnished to the circuit court. Allows fishing by means of a crossbow. Removes the authority for an individual with a hunting, trapping, or fishing license to ship, carry, or take outside Indiana in one week more than two times the possession limit for the wild animal. Makes the invasive species pilot program a permanent program. Removes certain conditions on the right of a nonresident who owns farmland in Indiana (and of the spouse and children who reside with the nonresident) to hunt, fish, and trap on the farmland without a license. Repeals the prohibition on racoon hunting by nonresidents. Removes a provision allowing a federal Fish and Wildlife Service officer or a conservation officer from another jurisdiction to hunt or fish in Indiana after obtaining a resident license. Requires a business that sells or barter live minnows or crayfish to have a bait dealer's license. (Current law requires a business that takes, catches, sells, or barter live minnows or crayfish to have a bait dealer's license.) Increases the number of annual free sport fishing days that may be designated from two to four. Allows the sale of game and furbearing mammals for food purposes under a game breeding license. Removes swamp rabbits from the list of exempted animals under a game breeding license. Requires all individuals to have a hunting license to shoot on a shooting preserve, and removes the requirement that nonresidents have a special license to shoot on shooting preserves. Removes authority of a meat processing facility to give properly tagged deer meat that is not claimed to another person. Provides that the entirety of an area declared to be infested with a pest or pathogen must be operated according to standards of the natural resources

commission (commission). (Current law specifies the infested area in terms of portions of townships.) Changes the nursery stock certificate expiration date from September 30 to December 31. Changes the procedures that the commission must follow when mediating surface water disputes. Establishes the reclamation cash bond account within the post-1977 abandoned mine reclamation fund. Requires that bonds forfeited under the abandoned oil and gas well law be placed in the oil and gas environmental fund. Makes technical and conforming changes.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2012.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** *As of the above date, the fiscal analysis of this bill has not been completed. Please contact the Office of Fiscal and Management Analysis for an update of this fiscal impact statement.*

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:**

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:**

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